

Remarks/Arguments:

Claims 1, 17 and 30-32 have been amended. No new matter is introduced herein. Claims 1, 3-17, 19-28 and 30-32 are pending.

Claims 1 and 17 have been amended to replace the phrase "third slice level voltage" with "second slice level voltage." Claims 31 and 32 have been amended to replace the phrase "second slice level voltage" with "third slice level voltage." Claims 31 and 32 have also been amended for antecedent basis. No new matter is introduced herein. Basis for the amendments to claims 1, 17, 31 and 32 includes, for example, page 50, line 4 - page 51, line 7 of the original specification.

Applicants note that the paragraph, beginning at page 50, line 4, was previously amended on June 10, 2009. This indicated paragraph has now been further amended to: 1) replace "third slice level voltage" with "second slice level voltage" (at line 9 of the paragraph) and 2) replace "second slice level voltage" with "third slice level voltage" (at line 12 of the paragraph). No new matter is introduced herein.

Claims 1, 3-17, 19-28 and 30-32 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. In particular, it is asserted that the claims are indefinite because claims 1 and 17 recite a "first slice level voltage" and a "third slice level voltage" without reciting a "second slice level voltage." As discussed above, claims 1 and 17 have been amended to include a "second slice level voltage," and claims 31 and 32 have been amended to include a "third slice level voltage." Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 1, 3-17, 19-28 and 30-32 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph be withdrawn.

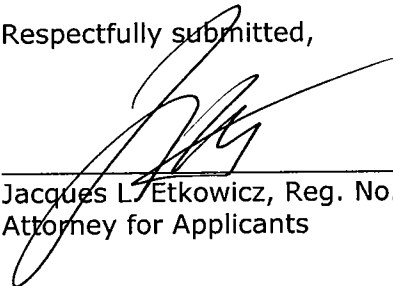
Claim 30 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. In particular, it is asserted that a claim drawn to a computer readable medium covers non-transitory tangible media and transitory propagating signals. Claim 30 has been amended, as suggested by the Examiner on page 4 of the Office Action, to recite a "non-transitory computer readable recording medium." No new matter is introduced herein. Basis for the amendment includes, for example, page 51, lines 19-25. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claim 30 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 be withdrawn.

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In view of the amendments and arguments set forth above, the above-identified application is in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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